

Personal Essay

A Better Tomorrow

Learning about global warming in class, watching a movie depicting the Mayan prophecy that will come true next year, and reading news on the horrible things humans have done to one another, have started me worrying about what the future holds. While scientists continue to create new inventions, environmentalists are pointing out that Mother Earth will soon run out of resources if human beings still do not learn to conserve energy. That is why I always ask myself, is the world really coming to an end? Or is it still capable of reaching greater heights? More often than not, I believe in the latter, for I believe we can make tomorrow a better day.

I am no optimist, but the generations of humanity do support my belief. Yes, there were the two world wars that killed millions and leave billions around them in grief; the influenzas and diseases that hit many unexpected; and the planes that rammed into the World Trade Centre on that fateful day—"911". However, I noticed the aftermaths too: the Atlantic Charter for a post-wars world, the vaccines that prevented the sufferings, and the unknown side of New Yorkers who were willing to reach out to help one another.

Hence, I believe that there will always be better things to come. I believe that there will come a time when every country in the world can take part in the Olympics, when terminal illnesses can be cured, when orphans from hazardous incidents find new happy families... These are not inconceivable miracles; these are endless possibilities for a greater tomorrow.

Of course, it is not enough just by believing everything will be alright when we wake up the next morning, as the saying goes "No pain, no gain". Easier said than done, I often thought. However, John F. Kennedy once said, "No problem of human destiny is beyond human beings." After all, we humans were the ones who first caused global warming, churned up weird diseases like AIDS, offended others out of selfishness for oneself—and the list never ends. The point is I thought we should be able to solve problems that we created ourselves.

There have been many ups and downs in my own life. When I was two, my younger sister of the new born triplet passed away. Being naïve and unwilling to face the truth, I thought she would open her eyes again when I woke up the next day. Of course, she never did. That was the fact our family have to live with forever but we have learnt to cope with it ever since. Now, I am the responsible eldest sister of five siblings and I see that our attitudes toward life affects life's attitude towards us.

I used to think what is important is what the future has for us, but now I realized the thing that matters is what we have for our future. Therefore, tomorrow can be a better day if we are willing to let it be.